

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01 /064 W
----- 037230

R 260931 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4752

INFO DOD

CSAF WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCPACAF

405 TH CSG/ DE CLARK AIR BASE

CG 13 TH AF CLARK AIR BASE

13 TH AF (DE) CLARK AIR BASE

CINCPACREPPHIL SUBIC NAVAL BASE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4791

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR

SUBJECT: GOP REQUEST FOR REVERSION OF CLARK BASELAND: CAPAS-

BOTOLAN

ROAD

REFS: A) MANILA 2123 (230929 Z) B) 13 TH AF 150707 Z MAR 73

C) 13 TH AF 130714 Z APR 73 D) 13 TH AF 210302 Z APR 73

1. 13 TH AF HAS COMPLETED A MAP WHICH PORTRAYS THE PATH
THE PROJECTED CAPAS- BOTOLAN ROAD WOULD FOLLOW THROUGH
THE CLARK RESERVATION. TWO COPIES OF THE MAP HAVE BEEN
POUCHED TO EA/ PHL.

2. ATTENTION OF ADDEES IS INVITED TO FACT THAT
PROJECTED ROAD WOULD PASS THROUGH NORTHERN AREA OF CROW
VALLEY WEAPONS RANGE. SIGNIFICANTLY, AIRCRAFT USING
THE RANGE FLY IN A NORTH- SOUTH DIRECTION AND WOULD CROSS
THE PLANNED ROAD CARRYING ORDNANCE ON SUCH APPROACHES.
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3. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED, HOWEVER, THAT IMMEDIATE PLANS OF GOP ARE APPARENTLY TO CONSTRUCT ONLY SIX KMS. OF ROAD IN 1973 IN AN AREA OUTSIDE THE CLARK RESERVATION. THEREFORE, WE PROPOSE TO ANSWER DFA NOTE BY INDICATING NEED TO DISCUSS SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS AND NEED FOR MUTUAL CONSULTATION ON FUTURE PHASING OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION, POINTING OUT IN MEANTIME THAT BASE AREAS DO NOT APPEAR TO BE IMMEDIATELY INVOLVED IN PLANNED CONSTRUCTION.

4. SUGGESTED REPLY TO DFA NOTE FOLLOWS: "... AND HAS THE HONOR TO REFER TO THE DEPARTMENT' S NOTE NO 73-510 OF FEB 20, 1973, AND SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN AUTHORITIES OF THE TWO GOVTS ON THE MATTERS ADDRESSED IN THE DEPARTMENT' S NOTE. THE NOTE IN QUESTION REFERS TO PLANS OF THE GOVT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO BUILD A CAPAS- BOTOLAN ROAD THROUGH A PORTION OF CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, THE RIGHT TO THE USE OF WHICH WAS GRANTED BY THE PHILIPPINES TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE RP- US MILITARY BASES AGREEMENT OF 1947, AS AMENDED.

MAPS PROVIDED THE EMBASSY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT THE PROJECTED ROAD FOLLOWS THE PATH OF A 1958 SURVEY. UNITED STATES ENGINEERS HAVE DRAWN A MAP WHICH PORTRAYS THE PATH THE PROJECTED ROAD WOULD FOLLOW THROUGH THE CLARK RESERVATION AND A COPY OF THAT MAP IS ENCLOSED. THE DEPARTMENT' S ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THE FACT THAT THE PROJECTED ROAD WOULD PASS THROUGH THE NORTHERN AREA OF THE CROW VALLEY WEAPONS RANGE. IT IS OF SIGNIFICANCE THAT AIRCRAFT USING THE RANGE APPROACH IT FROM THE NORTH AND WOULD CROSS THE PLANNED ROAD CARRYING ORDNANCE ON SUCH APPROACHES.

THE UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE CAREFUL STUDIES OF SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS ASSOCIATED WITH FUTURE USE OF THE ROAD AND THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING AN UNDERSTANDING AS TO RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY ACCIDENTS THAT MAY OCCUR DURING

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EVENTUAL CONSTRUCTION AND USE OF THE ROAD.

THE EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO PROCEED, AT PRESENT, ONLY WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIX KILOMETER PORTION OF THE ROAD AS A PILOT LABOR- INTENSIVE ROAD

PROJECT, AND THAT THIS PORTION, WHICH WOULD PROCEED FROM THE AREA OF CAPAS, WOULD LIE ENTIRELY OUTSIDE THE AREA OF THE CROW VALLEY RANGE. IN SUCH CASES, THE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE WOULD NOT COME INTO PLAY. IT IS ALSO THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THE SIX - KILOMETER AREA IS WITHIN PRIVATE PROPERTY AND IS NOT A PART OF CLARK AIR BASE PROPER. THEREFORE, IN THE PRESENT PHASE OF PLANNING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE ROAD, BASE AREAS DO NOT APPEAR IMMEDIATELY TO BE INVOLVED.

THE EMBASSY SOLICITS FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON THE FUTURE PHASING OF PLANNED ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND, AS SUGGESTED EARLIER, RECOMMENDS THAT AUTHORITIES OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS MEET TO DISCUSS SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT. THE EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT THE METES AND BOUNDS COMMITTEE OF THE US- PHILIPPINE MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD WOULD BE THE PROPER FORUM FOR SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

THE EMBASSY AVAILS ITSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO RENEW TO THE DEPARTMENT THE ASSURANCES OF ITS HIGHEST CONSIDERATION"

5. REQUEST COMMENTS/ APPROVAL.
BYROADE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MANILA04791
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730456/aaaajbci.tel
Line Count: 142
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 MANILA 2123
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <25 FEB 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980206
Subject: GOP REQUEST FOR REVERSION OF CLARK BASELAND
TAGS: MARR
To: EA
STATE INFO CINCPAC
DOD
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005